



CITY OF HILLSBORO

ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT

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SARAH GARRISON NAMED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LEADER OF THE YEAR

Oregon Economic Development Association honors Garrison at their Fall Conference

Sarah Garrison, Hillsboro's Economic Development Manager, has been named the Economic Development Leader of the Year by the Oregon Economic Development Association in recognition of her outstanding achievements in the economic development profession.

Garrison has over 21 years of economic development experience throughout the state and Portland region and has been instrumental in major successful recruitment and expansion projects including Genentech, SolarWorld, TriQuint Semiconductor, Adobe and Digital Reality Trust. Prior to her governmental experience, Ms. Garrison worked in the private sector for over 15 years

As Hillsboro's Economic Development Manager, Sarah works closely with businesses seeking to expand or locate in Hillsboro providing services that include site selection and evaluation, financial packaging, economic incentives troubleshooting and coordination with other local, state or federal agencies.

According to Hillsboro Mayor Jerry Willey, "Sarah is a valued member of our economic development team. Her professionalism and dedication to her work has helped improve Hillsboro's marketability. I've said for a long time that happiness begins with a job and Sarah's efforts have created many jobs in our region."

Prior to joining the City of Hillsboro, Ms. Garrison was a senior Business Development Officer for the State of Oregon's Economic Development Department (Business Oregon) where she specialized in high tech industries, including bioscience, semiconductor, solar and wind energy projects. She was intricately involved in the state's CleanTech (renewable energy) business recruitment initiative. During her time with the state, Oregon's solar manufacturing industry grew to become the largest Solar Cluster in the Americas. Sarah also developed the state's first Wind Industry Strategy and managed the Capital Projects Division at Business Oregon (now the Infrastructure Finance Authority), providing needed funding and technical assistance for infrastructure investment all over Oregon.